SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" From the long list of the cases that the Hon. Minister has read out to us, it is apparent that prosecution has been launched against only one individual and that in respect of the others, the question of launching prosecution is still under the active consideration of the Government. May I know how long this question has been under the consideration of the Government? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I want notice because I have to get some more details."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Do the Government think that the imposition of a fine of Rs. 50 on a management which refuses to implement an award involving thousands of rupees due to the workers is adequate punishment for the offence? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The hon. the Leader of the Opposition knows that the Government cannot dictate to the Magistrate what exactly should be the penalty."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Do the Government propose to amend the law to see that drastic punishment is meted out to people who do not implement the awards? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Even then we cannot ask the Magistrate to give a particular punishment."

Water-supply Schemes.

*429 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government are taking any and if so, what steps to relieve the acute water scarcity which exists in several towns and villages of this State and to keep themselves in touch with the situation in the various parts of the State regarding the availability of drinking-water therein?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House."

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—" It has been said that there is scarcity of drinking water in almost all the taluks in the State. In Krishna district alone all the wells are dry. The officials have been saying that they have no funds available with them to dig wells. May I know the reason for the delay in providing the officials with the requisite funds? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not able to understand with regard to which particular place the hon. Member is putting this question."

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—" In the months of May and June last just when there was no water in the wells, the officials were saying that they had no funds with them to dig wells. Why was this delay made by the Government in providing funds for this important work? "

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 90–91 infra.

14th July 1953]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" If the hon. Member wants information about any particular place, he may please put a separate question."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Is it a fact that the Government have issued a circular to all district and other authorities to the effect that they can stop digging of wells which are included in the rural water-supply scheme ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir. The work is being done in all places in accordance with the programme drawn up for the purpose."

Accommodation to the M.R.A. Team in Legislators' Hostel.

* 430 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Legislators' Hostel was rented to the delegates to the Moral Rearmament Conference and to the delegates of the Indian Roads Congress, and if so, the rate of rent per day per room collected from those occupants and the total amount of money received by the Government ?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The Legislators' Hostels were occupied by the Members of the Moral Rearmament Team from 20th January 1953 to 6th February 1953 and the delegates to the 17th Session of Indian Roads Congress from 6th February to 15th February 1953. Rent of Rs. 3 per head per day was collected from the members of the Moral Rearmament Team and from the delegates to the Indian Roads Congress. For delegates to the Road Congress who occupied rooms in the new Hostel a charge of Rs. 4 per day per head was made. The total amount collected was Rs. 10,100, Rs. 7,572 from the Moral Rearmament Team and Rs. 2,528 from the members of the Roads Congress."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Since the Government have charged less for the Americans and more for the delegates to the Indian Roads Congress, may I know whether it is their policy to give imperial preference to the Americans? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" We did not consider the fact that they were Americans. We considered the kind and utility of the work they were doing and we charged less."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know whether it was quite moral to collect rent from the delegates to the Moral Rearmament Conference? " (Laughter.)

Accommodation to the M.R.A. Team in the Legislators' Hostel.

* 431 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the rooms in the M.L.A. Hostel, Government Estate, Mount Road,